



Request for City Council Committee Action from the Department of Public Works

Date: October 22, 2013

To: Honorable Sandra Colvin Roy, Chair Transportation and Public Works
Committee

**Subject: Public Hearing: Assessments for Snow and Ice Removal from Public
Sidewalks**

Recommendation:

Passage and summary publication of a Resolution adopting the assessments in the total amount of \$88,293.25, levying the assessments, adopting the assessment roll and directing the City Clerk to transmit certified copies of the assessment roll to the Hennepin County Auditor.

Previous Directives:

- September 24, 2013 – Set a public hearing for October 22nd.

Department Information:

Prepared by: Suzette Hjermsstad, Supervisor, PW Special Assessment Office, 673-2401
Dan Bauer, Supervisor, Sidewalk Inspections 673-2420

Approved by: _____

Steven A. Kotke, P.E., Director of Public Works

Presenters in Committee: Dan Bauer, Supervisor, Sidewalk Inspections

Financial Impact

- Other financial impact: Special assessment against benefited properties

Community Impact

- Neighborhood Notification: Public hearing notices sent as required
- City Goals: City's infrastructure will be well-maintained

Supporting Information

Background

In August, 2010, City Council approved an Administrative Hearing Process for both Sidewalk Repair and Sidewalk Snow Removal assessments. The new process enables Sidewalk Inspections to work directly with the property owner to set a hearing date and time with an Administrative Hearing officer.

An assessment letter was sent instructing property owners to contact Public Works Sidewalk Inspections in writing if they had an issue with their assessment. Sidewalk Inspections then contacted the property owner to discuss their concerns regarding the pending assessment. This allowed Sidewalk Inspections and the property owner to agree upon resolution in many of the cases, eliminating the need to proceed further.

Sidewalk Snow & Ice Removal Assessments to be Levied

The properties on the list dated October 10, 2013 to be assessed, had the snow and ice removal work done by the City, were sent a bill for the cost of the removal work and have been notified that a special assessment for the removal charge plus interest would be added to the real estate taxes if the charges were not paid through the billing process.

The amount to be assessed as special assessment principal is the cost of the removal work. The total principal amount of the proposed assessments on the list of properties to be assessed, less pre-payments received and adjustments by the Administrative Hearing Officer, is \$88,293.25. The assessments would be collected in their entirety on the 2014 real estate tax statements with interest. The interest rate will be determined by the assessment bond sale. Information has been provided in the notices as to how prepayment of the assessments in full without interest charges may be made.

Attachment 1: Snow Removal Assessment List

T&PW – Your Committee recommends passage and summary publication of the accompanying Resolution adopting the assessments, levying the assessments and adopting the assessment rolls for the snow and ice removal from public sidewalks on the list of properties as on file in the Office of the City Clerk.

By Colvin Roy

Adopting and levying the assessments for the unpaid charges for the removals of snow and ice from public sidewalks on the list of properties dated October 10, 2013.

Whereas, preliminary to the public hearing, an Administrative Hearing was held to consider any objections or comments regarding unpaid charges for removals of snow and ice from public sidewalks; and

Whereas, a public hearing was held on October 22, 2013 in accordance with Chapter 8, Sections 12 and 13 of the Minneapolis City Charter to consider the proposed assessments as shown on the proposed assessment rolls on file in the office of the City Clerk and to consider all written and oral objections and statements regarding this matter;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by The City Council of The City of Minneapolis:

That the proposed assessments against the affected properties on the list dated October 10, 2013 in the total amount of \$88,293.25 and as shown on the proposed assessment rolls on file in the office of the City Clerk, are hereby adopted and levied.

Be It Further Resolved that the assessments in the total amount of \$88,293.25 be collected in one (1) installment on the 2014 real estate tax statements with interest.

Be It Further Resolved that the assessment rolls as prepared by the City Engineer be and hereby are adopted and that the City Clerk is hereby directed to transmit certified copies of said assessment rolls to the Hennepin County Auditor.